

MELTON CONSTABLE PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk: K Cotgrove**  
**Bodgers Field**  
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**MINUTES** of the Melton Constable Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 7.30pm at the Country Club.

Present: J Hayes (Chair)  
S Unsworth  
M Hayes  
A Crawford  
J Cox  
K Cotgrove Clerk  
District Cllr P Butikofer

2817 Apologies for Absence

On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Crawford SECONDED by Cllr M Hayes it was AGREED to accept apologies from Cllr Tosney.

2818 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018

On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Cox SECONDED by Cllr Crawford it was AGREED to accept the minutes of the meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> February as a true and accurate record.

2819 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Cox declared a non-pecuniary interest in the wildlife area development.

2820 Matters Arising from Last Minutes

2804. The Clerk sent an email and has received no response.

2814. Cllr Hayes and District Cllr Butikofer will also attend the Astley School opening.

2821 To consider co-option of a Parish Councillor

An email application from Scott Meacock had been distributed prior to the meeting. On a PROPOSAL by Cllr J Hayes SECONDED by Cllr Unsworth, it was agreed to co-opt Scott Meacock onto the Parish Council. The declaration of acceptance of office was signed.

2822 County & District Councillor reports

District Cllr Butikofer reported on the balance of power and change of leadership at the District Council. The budget has been sent, with agreed amendments put forward by the Liberal Democrats and Independents. Refuse collection issues due to the snow are being resolved. There was a successful prosecution for animal cruelty. Vattenfall has announced they will be using HVDC transmission, which will mean no relay station is necessary and the cable corridor width will be reduced. District Cllr Butikofer will look into what is happening with the Local Green Space designations.

2823 To adjourn the meeting to allow for public participation

No members of the public were in attendance.

2824 Members' Reports

Churchyard: Cllr Crawford has not been to the churchyard in the last month.

Southside: 2 pavements have still not been cleared; one opposite the Co-Op and a section opposite the doctors. The Clerk will chase.

Bus shelter: Cllr Tosney emailed that there is nothing to report.

Play Area: All fine

Recreation Ground: All fine.

Northside: There is a loose section of grating near the kebab takeaway – the Clerk will report. There are also potholes, which will be reported.

Allotments: 4 plots have been taken up since the last meeting, and Cllr Unsworth is showing someone round another one in the next few days. One person was spoken to about the poultry, an another was written to. A Parishioner has complained about dogs being left in a trailer on an allotment, and a youth riding a vehicle along the path and the local roads and garaging it on the allotment plot. On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Cox, SECONDED by Cllr Crawford it was agreed that the Clerk will write to the allotment holder to advise that complaints have been received, and to remind him that vehicle cannot be garaged on the allotments.

2825 To approve Standing Orders

The draft Standing Orders had been circulated prior to the meeting. On a PROPOSAL by Cllr M Hayes, SECONDED by Cllr Crawford, the Standing Orders were adopted with a few minor amendments.

2826 To update on the Stody permissive footpath scheme

The Clerk sent an email to Charlie MacNichol as agreed. The apparent loss of public footpaths on Stody land was discussed, and it was agreed that the Clerk will contact NCC's Footpaths Officer to enquire.

2827 Felbeck Trust initiative

Cllr Tosney had reported via email that the Felbeck Trust are happy to wait until a lease is finalised. He asked if the cubs and scouts can put up some bird boxes and feeders in the meantime. Following discussion, on a PROPOSAL by Cllr J Hayes it was agreed to allow bird boxes on the untenanted allotments only, but not feeders due to the risk of vermin. Cllr J Hayes will let Cllr Tosney know.

2828 To update on the lease with the landlord of the allotments

The Parish Council's solicitors have been appointed, and the landlord's agents have written to the Clerk to ask what area the lease needs to cover. It was agreed that the Clerk will ask for the lease to cover all of the allotment gardens which the Parish Council pay rent for. Cllr M Hayes marked the map with the area to be covered, this area was agreed by all Councillors, with the exception of Cllr Cox.

2829 To update on street lighting

Whilst repairing the street light outside the doctors, Westcotec noticed that another street light was badly rusted, so removed it for safety reasons. The Clerk was quoted approx. £80 for repairs and has given to go ahead. A discussion took place about the long-term spending for street lighting, and it was agreed that all spending other than general maintenance must be approved by the Council. Cllr Cox will draft a policy.

2830 Planning applications

PF/18/0081. Erection of two storey detached dwelling and garage. Site adjacent to Burgh Hall Cottages, Holt Road, Melton Constable, NR24 2PU. One complaint has been received from a Parishioner. Following discussion, on a PROPOSAL by Cllr Cox, SECONDED by Cllr Crawford, it was agreed to object to the proposal on the basis that further housing is not required at this development with no provision for affordable / social housing. District Cllr Butikofer noted the Council's objection, and will support it.

2831 Finances

No monthly statements were available as bank statements had not yet arrived.

On a PROPOSAL by Cllr Unsworth SECONDED by Cllr M Hayes it was AGREED to approve the following payments:

DD	Eon	Electricity – February	£19.90
SO	CGM	Grounds maintenance – Feb	£138.49
101974	Westcotec	Lighting maintenance - Feb	£13.25
101973	K Cotgrove	Clerk’s March salary	£162.76
101972	NPT&S	Annual subscription	£121.85
101975	G W Harrold	Half yearly rent for allotments	£400.00
TOTAL			£856.25

2814 Correspondence

- (i) The Clerk has received notice that the War memorial is now grade 2 listed.
- (ii) An update request was received by the Big Society Fund. The Clerk and Cllr M Hayes have responded.

2815 Items for April agenda

Street lighting policy  
Norfolk Day

Cllr J Hayes stated he hopes there will be good news regarding the lease in the near future, so the Annual Parish Council meeting can concentrate on the Felbeck Trust and Playground projects.

2816 Date and time of next meeting

It was agreed that the date and time of the next Parish Council meeting would be Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7.30pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7:30pm.

9:18 pm: Meeting Closed

Clerk .....

Chair .....

Dated .....